

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/807,621

Examiner

Nathan M. Nutter

Applicant(s)

KWOK ET AL.

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## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 30 August 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 18-21 and 25-40.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 24 August 2007.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

### REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: No prior art has been found nor presented that either teaches or fairly suggests the method of production of a rubber modified styrenic resin composition consisting of from about 92.0% to about 99.9% by weight of a rubber modified styrene maleic anhydride copolymer, from about 0.1% to about 8.0 % by weight of polybutene based on the weight of the rubber modified styrenic resin composition, and optionally, customary additives wherein said rubber modified styrenic resin composition is produced in a polymerization process and said polybutene is part of the reactive mixture of said styrene, said maleic anhydride and said rubber in said polymerization process, the steps comprising for the polymerization process,

1) adding the polybutene to partially polymerized syrup comprised of rubber, styrene, and maleic anhydride after the syrup exits a reactor and enters a devolatilizer, or

2) forming a solution of the polybutene, maleic anhydride, and rubber by dissolving the polybutene, the maleic anhydride and the rubber in styrene monomer, continuously feeding the solution with the styrene monomer into a polymerization reactor vessel, and devolatilizing the stream exiting the polymerization reactor vessel thereby producing the rubber modified styrenic resin composition, or

3) adding polybutene and styrene maleic anhydride rubber feed separately into a polymerization reactor vessel, polymerizing the styrene maleic anhydride feed in the

presence of the polybutene and the rubber in the polymerization reactor vessel, and devolatilizing the stream exiting the polymerization reactor vessel thereby producing the rubber modified styrenic resin composition, or

4) forming a solution of maleic anhydride and rubber in styrene monomer, continuously feeding said solution with the styrene monomer into a polymerization reactor vessel to produce a partially polymerized styrenic syrup, adding the polybutene to the partially polymerized styrenic syrup after it exits the reactor vessel and devolatilizing the stream after the polybutene has been added to the partially polymerized styrenic syrup thereby producing the rubber modified styrenic resin composition.

Since there are no other outstanding issues with regard to the clarity or enablement of the claims, these claims are deemed to contain allowable subject matter.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

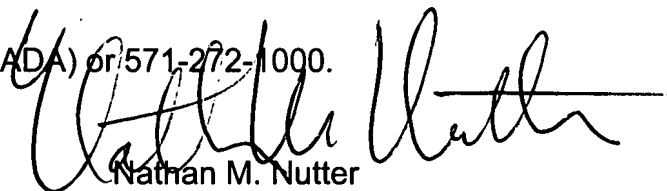
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nathan M. Nutter whose telephone number is 571-272-1076. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James J. Seidleck can be reached on 571-272-1078. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathan M. Nutter', is written over the printed name and title.

Nathan M. Nutter  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1711

nmn

1 September 2007